

Square niches in the walls of two rooms at Mohenjo-Daro seem to give this portion of the structure the look of a primitive temple. Some of the figures on the seals would fit in with this view. One of them is crosslegged in meditation, and has been rightly interpreted as an Indian god in pose. There are figures also of two goddesses.

Human Figures and Remains.

The men have their hands about their knees, in figurines in both Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, and some of them have the Nāga hood. The Nāgas are a prehistoric Indian people whose memory is preserved in place-names and in traditions. The nijānuka posture of the men (hands about the knee-caps) is described in one of the later Vedic texts ⁽¹⁾. This may be contrasted with the Sumerian posture of the hands folded at the waist.

The Indian female figures have their upper arms covered with armlets right up to the shoulder as is even now the fashion with newly wedded women in Sindh and Rajputana. The women are nude and have conical breasts. But figures of nude women are unknown in Babylonia before the end of the third millenium B.C.

In the museum of Mohenjo-Daro the skeletons are dolichocephalic, but the skull from the fractional burial and the marble and alabaster statues show a pronounced brachycephaly. The head forms gives evidence, therefore, of more than one race.

All the methods of disposal of the dead found in the relics, with one or two others, are found described in the Vedic texts ⁽²⁾ and in later non-Aryan tradition ⁽³⁾. From ancient South Indian sites were unearthed numerous urns like those of Harappa in which skeletons were doubled up inside, their foreheads being bound with fillets of gold as at Mohenjo-Daro, and with bronze figures of the dog and the buffalo near them. These clearly non-Aryan urns are now in the Madras Museum.

Implements and Ornaments.

Bronze implements discovered in plenty dismiss the illusion of India having only a copper and not a bronze age. The bangles are hollow and filled with shellac or joined by wax. On some of them are two pin-holes at each side of the joint. The bracelets are unlike those of Syria and S. Russia which are penannular. The Copper and Bronze Age to which these finds belong is Aryan rather than Dravidian, as no copper implements unaccompanied by iron ones have yet been discovered in South India. The Vedic word for copper is *loham*, the

⁽¹⁾ Taittiriya Āraṇyaka, I. 6. We have similarly the *upavītā* (See Memoirs of Arch. Sur. No. 41 Plate 1.)

⁽²⁾ Ṛg-veda IV. 38, 5.

⁽³⁾ Manimekhalai, Book VI.